WHEREAS, Leif Erikson made the original discovery by non-native Americans of the North American continent in about the year A.D. 1000, and subsequently explored portions thereof; and,

WHEREAS, Proof of the historical fact rests solidly, not only on independent accounts in the Norse sagas, evidence from the archives of European libraries, and weldings of numerous historians, but also on recent scientific findings; and,

WHEREAS, The President of the United States, in the recognition of the historic and intrepid exploit in early American history has designated in each year October 9th as Leif Erikson Day; and,

WHEREAS, It is particularly appropriate that the State of South Dakota, where so many of the residents are of Norwegian birth or background, having contributed to the industrial, cultural and governmental life and development of our State, should pay tribute to the memory of Leif Erikson:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 9, 1977, as

LEIF ERIKSON DAY

In South Dakota, and urge all of our citizens, especially those of Norwegian descent, to pay tribute to the memory of Leif Erikson on this day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-Eighth Day of September, In the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Seven.

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE